

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation of copending application Serial No. 10/266,536 filed October 8, 2002, now US Patent No. 6,720,800, which itself is a continuation application of application serial_number 09/489,660 filed January 24, 2000, now US Patent No. 6,472,897 and assigned to the same assignee, the teachings of which are hereby incorporated by reference.